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61 *APF*  
RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 3743

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

ATTY.'S DOCKET: AKIMOTO=4

In re Application of:	) Art Unit: 3743
Hiromichi AKIMOTO	)
Appln. No.: 10/035,421	) Examiner: A. M. RAGONESE
Date Filed: January 4, 2002	)
For: APPARATUS FOR FREEZE-DRYING	) Washington, D.C.
FOODSTUFFS, MEDICAMENTS	)
	) Confirmation No.: 2427
	)
	) August 5, 2004
	)

**REPLY AFTER FINAL: AMENDMENT AND REMARKS**

Mail Stop AFTER FINAL  
Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**

AUG 10 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

Replying to the Final Office Action mailed April 5,  
2004, petition for one-month's extension of time and late fee  
being attached hereto, please amend as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing  
of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.